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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Haussmann, Robert, et al.	Examiner:	Not yet assigned
Serial No.	10/757,089	Group Art Unit:	Not yet assigned
Filed:	December 19, 2003	Docket No.	54317-029201
Title:	Fast Play DVD		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to MAIL STOP: PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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**PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER MPEP 708.02 VIII -
ACCELERATED EXAMINATION**

MAIL STOP: PETITION
Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

Applicants hereby respectfully request that this utility patent application be made special and advanced for examination under 37 CFR 1.102 and MPEP 708.02 VIII. As required:

- a) This petition to make special is accompanied by the \$130.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(h);
- b) A search was conducted by a professional searcher;
- c) Information Disclosure Statements including the references located in the search, as well as other references of which Applicants are aware, are submitted herewith. Copies of each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims are also submitted herewith;

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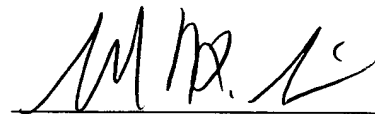
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- d) A discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 CFR 1.111 (b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references, follows;
- e) All of the claims in this case are directed to a single invention; and
- f) If the USPTO determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, then applicant will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the grant of special status.

Please charge the petition filing fee in the amount of \$ 130.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-2638. Authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50 2638, including fees for a one-month extension of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the application be accorded special status under 37 CFR 1.102.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 30, 2004

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DISCUSSION OF REFERENCES

Please note that this discussion of the references is not an admission that the references are in fact prior art to the invention, and Applicant expressly reserves the right to challenge any particular references discussed herein on the ground that it does not qualify as prior art per se.

These references do not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

1. 6,424,793 Setogawa et al.

Setogawa et al. discloses a data recording medium and a data replay apparatus that are provided for allowing an automatic return to a menu at the completion point of a replay of one content and allowing an arbitrary jump to the next or previous content during a replay of one content. An entire disk of DVD for a musical product such as karaoke is made up of a single program chain (PGC) and tunes are divided into cells. An instruction to jump to a tune selection menu is written in a cell command (cell CMD) of each cell. On completion of a normal replay of a tune, the cell command is executed and the operation jumps to the tune selection menu. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

2. 20020141741 Zou et al.

Zou et al. discloses a media player that employs an operating system that supports a virtual machine into which auto-run playback programs may be loaded and run. The auto run playback program is stored on the media containing the program content, such as on an optical disc medium. When the medium is inserted in the player, the auto run playback program automatically launches and is thereafter used to access playback the media content. Support for legacy media is provided to allow the player to playback compact discs and DVD discs that were manufactured without the auto run playback program. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

3. 20030044171 Otsuka et al.

Otsuka et al. discloses a method of controlling the operations and display mode of an optical disc player between a user agent mode and a video playback mode. The method comprises reading a program stored on a local optical disc that may include a function that specifies the video playback mode as the operations mode for the optical disc player. In the video playback mode,

in one case a user agent menu is displayed while displaying video menu, while in another case, video menu can be displayed while running the user agent menu in the background. The program may include a second function that changes the operations mode of the optical disc player to user agent mode where the user agent menu is displayed in the foreground of the displaying device. In one embodiment, these functions change the operations mode while also disabling the user control interface to prevent a user from changing the operations mode. In another embodiment, these functions change the operations mode of the optical disc player without disabling the user control interface, thereby allowing a user to change the operations mode of the optical disc player. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

4. 20030194212 Akita et al.

Akita et al. discloses a DVD player that performs processing which, when subpicture settings, audio settings, or angle settings cannot be changed, determines whether the switching operation is impossible due to a lack of data recorded on a DVD, or is prohibited by a title producer or due to player specifications. When a user-designated operation cannot be executed, the DVD player displays a message indicating that the operation is prohibited by the title producer or due to the player specifications. When the operation is impossible due to a lack of data corresponding to the operation, the DVD player displays a message indicating that the operation is impossible due to the lack of the corresponding data. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

5. 6,453,459 Broderson et al.

Broderson et al. discloses a DVD authoring system in which a processor-based system removes an author from consideration of the DVD Specification during authoring. According to a preferred embodiment, the authoring system provides an authoring engine having an interactive graphical authoring interface, a data management engine, an emulator, a compiler, a multiplexer and a simulator. Using summary authoring data, the compiler builds a skeleton-form PGC layout structure comprising control PGC abstractions and router PGC abstractions. The compiler then resolves the PGC abstractions according to source-target connections. During playback on a DVD player, the PGC abstractions form elements in a connection-switching abstraction superstructure. Accordingly, in response to DVD-consumer and other control events, a source PGC preferably determines target PGC information and then transfers control, via virtual connections through necessary router PGC abstractions, to a target PGC abstraction. The target PGC abstraction then correspondingly initiates playback of a movie chapter or displays a menu. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

6. 5,161,034 Klappert

Klappert discloses a method and apparatus for enabling a user of a video laser disc to interact with the video image being displayed so as to provide capabilities which are either not available or difficult to implement using prior art techniques. An example of the use of the present invention would be to enable a user, while viewing a music video or movie, to be presented with a menu specifying choices which the user may make wherein the next program played is an item from the menu selected by the user. A branch table is encoded within what is known as a subcode channel of a laser video disc, which table is loaded into a memory and specifies information which identifies segments on the laser video disc to which the playback head of the laser video disc should go when a particular control button is pressed on a remote control. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

7. 6,141,004 Jeong

Jeong discloses a DVD (Digital Video Disc) player including a system controller for controlling an overall operation of the DVD player and an audio/video decoder for decoding DVD bit stream data into audio and video data. The system controller transfers a key input indicative of a menu playback request by a user to the audio/video decoder. The audio/video decoder highlights a selected menu item according to the key input by using highlight information in a control pack of the DVD bit stream and transfers control information for the selected menu item to the system controller. Then, the system controller plays back the menu item according to the control information. The control information includes an executed button number and a button command to be executed. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

8. 5,155,600 Maeda

Maeda discloses a video disk playback apparatus for playing back video image information recorded on a disk, such as a laser disk. The information recorded in the disk is read out as playback signals, which are separated into an analog composite video signal, digital data and digital audio data. The analog composite video signal is either directly reproduced as a moving picture, or is converted into digital composite video data and stored in a video data memory. On the other hand, the digital data is converted into digital video data having the same format as the digital composite video data and is stored in the same video data memory as the digital composite video data. The digital data being read out from the disk, such as track number and frame number, are converted into a format that can be recorded into the video data memory, and hence the video data memory for storing the digital composite video data can be shared, so that a memory circuit for the digital video data is not needed. It is also possible to cope with the case of recording a large capacity of digital data such as graphic data and still pictures onto a video

disk. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

9. 4,449,198 Kroon

Kroon discloses a device for interactive video playback utilizing a modified playback apparatus for video discs. Such a video disc contains stored video information and possibly also audio information. The various playback and addressing modes can be activated by operation of buttons. The information read is directly suitable for playback on a television screen. The playback apparatus is modified for executing these playback and addressing modes also under the control of selection signals received from a computer. There is also provided an extraction element for extracting the frame numbers from the information read and for supplying these numbers as data to the computer. The computer furthermore includes a read/write memory for the storage of the information of alphanumerical characters and of selection signals for the playback apparatus. In some cases, the latter signals are activatable only by a request signal. The computer also includes an output for said alphanumerical characters as additional display information. There is also provided a keyboard suitable on the one hand for inputting instructions for the computer which are expressed in a higher programming language in order to modify the program to be executed by the computer. It can also be used for producing a request signal for activating a selection signal read from the read/write memory. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

10. 5,734,891 Saigh

Saigh discloses an electronic personal library apparatus that comprises a control unit, programmable memory modules selectively communicated with the control unit to supply programmed information to the control unit, programmable compact cylinders, and a compact cylinder reader that communicates electronically with the control unit. The compact cylinders are encoded with information and the cylinder reader accesses the information and provides the information to the control unit. The control unit stores portions of the information received from the cylinders in the memory modules communicating with the control unit, or displays sequential displays of the information encoded on the compact cylinders. The information network interfaces with the personal library apparatus and includes a central information storage facility that communicates with several separate book bank facilities, each at different geographic locations. The central information storage facility provides text of books, periodicals, magazines, etc. encoded on laser readable disks to the book bank facilities. The book bank facilities transfer the information encoded on the disks to the compact cylinders or memory modules. The electronic duplication of information at the point of purchase of the information, the book bank, provides the text of books, periodicals, magazines, etc. in a machine readable form that may be visually displayed by the electronic personal library apparatus. This reference

does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

11. 6,663,887 Saigh et al.

Saigh et al. discloses an information distribution system, in accordance with one form of the present invention, includes a central information bank and a central transactional data base coupled to point-of-sale delivery systems. Information flows between each point-of-sale delivery system and the central information bank and central transactional data base via a communication network such as the telephone network, a satellite network, or any other network suitable for the transfer of information. The point-of-sale delivery systems may take one of many forms including a point of purchase delivery system, a point of rental delivery system, a "book bank" subsystem, a promotional delivery system, or any combination of such systems. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

12. 4,860,122 Kanamaru

Kanamaru discloses an audio still picture reproducer in which picture numbers corresponding to desired pictures which are to be reproduced from a recording medium are entered at a keypad or the like and sequentially stored, prior to reproduction, in a memory in accordance with the sequence of the reproduction of the desired pictures. During reproduction, video information read from the recording medium and corresponding to the picture numbers stored in the memory is written in a video memory in accordance with the sequence of the storage of the picture numbers in the memory. The video information written in the video memory is sequentially and repeatedly read from the video memory and supplied as reproduced video information to a monitor to produce a still picture. Audio information read from the recording medium is reproduced as is. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

13. 5,351,132 Sawabe et al.

Sawabe et al. discloses a method of recording information on a video disk, including the steps of: recording a video signal on the video disk; and recording table-of-contents data to control reproduction of the recorded video signal, on a plurality of frames in a lead-in area of the video disk. The table-of-contents data has a data structure, which is completed in each of the plurality of frames and is repeatedly identical in each of the plurality of frames adjacent to each other. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-

determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

14. 5,457,669 Kim et al.

Kim et al. discloses a program search method for a digital signal processor which can search a program irrespective of the presence or absence of chapter numbers indicating portions of a recorded program includes the steps for setting predetermined search interval and reproduction period according to respective external inputs, jumping from a present location by the predetermined search interval set in the setting step, reproducing the program from a recording medium for the predetermined reproduction period set during the setting step after performing the jumping step, and then repeatedly performing the jumping and reproducing steps. In contrast with the conventional method, the program search method performs search and intro functions by the set intervals, which are defined in terms of time or frame units. Thus, the multi-intro scan function can be performed even if there is no chapter number differentiation for each respective program. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

15. 5,447,516 Takezawa

Takezawa discloses a reproducing apparatus in which reproduction advancement data are produced using data recorded in a user Table of Contents (TOC) area of a recording medium as access information during recording and/or reproduction of data. This allows ordinary and special reproducing operations to be performed in the forward and reverse directions readily. The reproduction advancement data are produced such that segment numbers are indicated in the order of numbers of programs to be reproduced or in the predetermined order of reproduction. During reproduction, a reproduction pointer is advanced or retreated along the reproduction advancement data to discriminate a segment so that the segments can be accessed successively in the forward or reverse reproducing directions. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

16. 5,491,704 Duron

Duron discloses an interactive laser disc system including a conventional laser disc player having a laser disc supporting a plurality of data segments each having instruction data and event data. The instruction data is repeated in triplicate and is processed by a comparator to determine instruction data reliability using a matching two out of three criteria. A controller operates the laser disc player to present an option screen to the user while storing the event data needed to respond immediately to the user's selection. The use of the memory and controller avoids the need of using a central processing unit and reading of the entire laser disc. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player

utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

17. 5,504,585 Fujinami et al.

Fujinami et al. discloses a method and apparatus for reproducing pictures from a recording medium in search mode wherein each picture is recorded in the recording medium in the form of a coded signal. The coded signal is coded in either an intra-picture coding mode or an inter-picture coding mode. The coded signal of a picture coded in the intra-picture coding mode is an I-picture; the coded signal of a picture coded in the inter-picture coding mode with only forward prediction is a P-picture; and the coded signal of a picture coded in the inter-picture coding mode with bi-directional prediction is a B-picture. The pictures are reproduced from a read position on the recording medium. To provide an increased number of pictures in search mode, the read position is changed to a first read position, and an I-picture is immediately reproduced from the recording medium at the first read position. Then, at least one B-picture or one P-picture is immediately reproduced from the recording medium following the I-picture. Finally, the I-picture and the at least one B-picture or P-picture is decoded to provide an output signal for display. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

18. 5,510,906 Yagasaki et al.

Yagasaki et al. discloses that in a motion picture recording method, a motion picture recording medium, and a motion picture reproducing apparatus, picture data composed of a plurality of motion pictures is recorded to be time-successively reproduced. The picture data, composed of a plurality of motion pictures, is recorded on a disc recording medium on a spiral recording track on which every motion picture is separately recorded, track unit by track unit, in order. Further, respective picture data is recorded to overlap in the radial direction corresponding to at least the time needed for a one-track-jump. Therefore, a motion picture recording method, a motion picture recording medium, and a motion picture reproducing apparatus are realized, which allow the reproducing state to be switched to the reproducing of the picture data of another motion picture by track-jump, when the picture data of one motion picture is reproduced from the picture data of a plurality of motion pictures, so as to time-successively reproduce between a plurality of motion pictures. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

19. 5,570,340 Lee et al.

Lee et al. discloses a disk recording medium has a lead-in area, a program area and a lead-out area. The program area includes a first table area where a first index table consisting of a

plurality of first indices and address data is recorded, a second table area where a second index table consisting of a plurality of second indices and address data is recorded, a first data area where a plurality of first programs consisting of first data are recorded according to an index of the plurality of first indices of the first index table, and a second data area where a plurality of second programs consisting of second data and an index table of the first programs related to the second data are recorded according to an index of the plurality of second indices of the second index table. The reproduction method reproduces the data of the program selected from a disk recording medium having the above record format, to thereby record thousands of programs onto a single disk, directly access a large amount of programs without an operating or application system, and enable high speed accessing. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

20. 5,592,450 Yonemitsu et al.

Yonemitsu et al. discloses a method and apparatus for reproducing MPEG-compressed video data and compressed audio data from an optical disk having a diameter less than 140 mm and, a thickness of $1.2\text{ mm} \pm 0.1\text{ mm}$, with a plurality of record tracks having data recorded thereon as embossed pits representing information and exhibiting a track pitch in the range between $0.646\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ and $1.05\text{ }\mu\text{m}$; with the tracks being divided into a lead-in area, a program area and a lead-out area. The data includes table of contents (TOC) information recorded in a plurality of sectors in at least one TOC track and user information recorded in a plurality of sectors in user tracks. The user information is comprised of MPEG-compressed video data, which may exhibit any one of difference MPEG formats, and compressed audio data, which likewise may exhibit an MPEG format, a PCM format or the like. The TOC information includes addresses of start sectors recorded in the user tracks and also includes application table of contents (ATOC) information which identifies various parameters for accessing and using the user information. The data (both user, TOC and ATOC information) is encoded in a long distance error correction code having at least eight parity symbols. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

21. 5,594,709 Nagano et al.

Nagano et al. discloses a reproducing device which is capable of performing an index search on both a recording medium on which an index point to subdivide a program is beforehand recorded together with programs, and a recording medium on which no index point is beforehand recorded. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

22. 5,596,564 Fukushima et al.

Fukushima et al. discloses that a data recording/reproducing apparatus of that invention efficiently performs a trickplay mode operation such as fast forward reproducing and rewind reproducing and a postrecording operation by using a data recording medium storing a variable-bitrate-compressed video data. Each AV file in the video data includes chapter data and first and second pointer data. Each GOP data in the chapter data includes one independent picture data and a plurality of dependent picture data. The first pointer data includes the location data of the independent picture data, and the second pointer data includes the location data of the first pointer data. Further, each GOP data includes an audio data interleaved with the picture data. The first pointer data includes the location data of the corresponding audio data, and the second pointer data includes the location data of the corresponding first pointer data. A hierarchical location data for retrieving the independent picture data and/or the audio data is formed by the first and second pointers. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

23. 5,596,565 Yonemitsu et al.

Yonemitsu et al. discloses a method and apparatus for recording MPEG-compressed video data and compressed audio data on an optical disk having a diameter less than 140 mm and, a thickness of 1.2 mm. \pm 0.1 mm, with a plurality of record tracks having data recorded thereon as embossed pits representing information and exhibiting a track pitch in the range between 0.646 μ m and 1.05 μ m; with the tracks being divided into a lead-in area, a program area and a lead-out area. The data includes table of contents (TOC) information recorded in a plurality of sectors in at least one TOC track and user information recorded in a plurality of sectors in user tracks. The user information is comprised of MPEG-compressed video data, which may exhibit any one of difference MPEG formats, and compressed audio data, which likewise may exhibit an MPEG format, a PCM format or the like. The TOC information includes addresses of start sectors recorded in the user tracks. The data is encoded in a long distance error correction code having at least eight parity symbols. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.

24. Go Video User's Guide

Go Video User's Guide discloses a method that when an EZ Play feature is active, the DVD+VCR will find the beginning of the movie on most discs and begin playing the movie automatically. This reference does not disclose a medium having a plurality of data blocks to be played on a medium player utilizing either a first set of instructions to play the data blocks in a pre-determined sequence or a second set of instructions to play the data blocks in response to user commands that determine the sequence.